

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

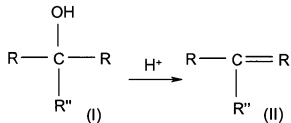
1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A breath testing device comprising nanoparticles and a visual indicating agent that is color sensitive to at least one odorous compound present in the breath of a user.

24. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the odorous compound contains sulfur.

25. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the odorous compound contains an amine.

26. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the visual indicating agent contains a dye having the general formula (I) or (II):



where,

R is H, (NH₂)C₆H₅-, or C₆H₅-;

R' is (CH₃)₂NC₆H₅-, (NH₂)C₆H₅-, (CH₃)C₁₀H₆(OH)-, or
(NaCO₂)(CH₃)C₁₀H₅(OH)-;

and

R'' is (CH₃)₂NC₆H₅-, (NH₂)C₆H₅-, (CH₂)C₁₀H₆O-, or (NaCO₂)(CH₂)C₁₀H₅O-.

27. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the visual indicating agent contains pararosaniline base, alpha-naphtholbenzein, naphthochrome green, or combinations thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the visual indicating agent contains 4,4'-bis(dimethylamino)-benzhydrol.

29. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the nanoparticles have an average size of less than about 100 nanometers.

30. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the nanoparticles have an average size of from about 1 to about 50 nanometers.

31. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the nanoparticles have a surface area of from about 50 to about 1000 square meters per gram.

32. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the nanoparticles have an average size of from about 100 to about 600 square meters per gram.

33. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the nanoparticles include silica, alumina, or combinations thereof.

34. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, wherein the visual indicating agent is contained on a substrate.

35. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 34, wherein the substrate contains a fibrous material.

36. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 35, wherein the fibrous material contains cellulosic fibers.

37. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 34, wherein the substrate is located within a passage of a carrier portion.

38. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 34, wherein the substrate covers an end of a carrier portion.

39. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 34, wherein the visual indicating agent is applied to the substrate as a solution.

40. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 39, wherein the concentration of the visual indicating agent is from about 0.001 to about 15% wt/wt.

41. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 39, wherein the concentration of the visual indicating agent is from about 0.005 to about 2% wt/wt.

42. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 23, further comprising a zone having a reference color, the reference color being the color to which the indicating agent will change upon exposure to the odorous compound.

43. (Previously Presented) A dispenser containing the breath testing device of claim 1.

44. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 43, further comprising at least one breath freshener.

45. (Previously Presented) The dispenser of claim 44, wherein the breath testing device and breath freshener are contained in different compartments of the dispenser.

46. (Previously Presented) A breath testing device comprising a carrier portion defining a passage that is open at least one end, wherein the device contains nanoparticles and a visual indicating agent that is color sensitive to at least one odorous compound present in the breath of a user.

47. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 46, wherein the carrier portion is a cylindrical structure.

48. (Previously Presented) The breath testing device of claim 46, wherein the carrier portion is substantially flattened.

49. (Previously Presented) A method for testing for bad breath in a user, the method comprising:

causing the user to blow or breathe onto or into a carrier portion of a breath testing device, the breath testing device containing nanoparticles and a visual indicating agent that is sensitive to at least one odorous compound; and

observing whether the visual indicating agent changes color.